



ACLU
Puerto Rico

Our actions in May 2026

The ACLU of Puerto Rico is the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), a nonprofit organization founded in the United States in 1920. Our mission is to fight violations of the civil liberties guaranteed by the legal systems of the United States and Puerto Rico, wherever and whenever necessary.

We work to ensure that the constitutional guarantees and statutes that protect human rights and civil liberties are upheld and enforced in the Puerto Rican archipelago. We confront oppression, authoritarianism, and injustices against people.



PROTECT IMMIGRANTS IN PUERTO RICO

Your voice is essential to protecting the immigrant community in Puerto Rico!

House Bill 331 seeks to **strengthen the human rights and dignity of all people** by prohibiting local police from collaborating with DHS and ICE in the enforcement of discriminatory immigration laws or carrying out arbitrary detentions. It also defines special protections for “sensible locations”, such as schools, hospitals, and churches.



Scan the QR code and urge your legislator to vote in favor of House Bill 331.

JOIN THE FIGHT

Defending rights does not happen on its own, but through a united and active community. We invite you to stay informed, share our analysis, support our cases, and defend the civil and constitutional rights of all people in the streets, in the Legislature, and in the courts.

- Visit our website and subscribe to our updates: www.aclu-pr.org
- Follow us on social media [in](#) [f](#) [@](#) [v](#)
- Write to us at acluofpr@aclu.org

ACTIONS IN MAY 2026

- **We had an active presence** with nine legal observers during the International Workers’ Day demonstration on May 1. We denounced the excessive presence of police officers whose formations sent a message of intimidation and control toward the public, rather than serving to protect and guarantee the free exercise of freedom of expression.
- **We participated in a public hearing** before a Senate committee to present arguments in opposition to House Bill 25, which seeks to amend the definition of the maritime-terrestrial zone in a way that undermines the public interest and coastal protection.
- **We observed part of the lands** impacted by the U.S. Navy in Vieques as part of a visit with community members to receive updates on the cleanup process in the area and its possible opening to the public. We denounced the lack of precise and clear data accessible to the public at the time of the visit and documented concerns.



- **We filed a lawsuit** against the Puerto Rico Police Bureau over the killing of Daniel Maldonado Díaz, a 42-year-old U.S. Army veteran who was experiencing a mental health crisis at his residence in Utuado when an officer shot him in the chest, in an improper use of deadly force.
- **Alberto Pierre is back in Puerto Rico!** After an intense fight before immigration courts, our client — a Haitian immigrant detained by ICE on December 24, 2025, while accompanying his wife to a prenatal appointment — was released on bond and brought back to the archipelago to reunite with his family.
- **We conducted freedom of speech workshops** for professors and students at the University of Puerto Rico and maintained legal observations during the period of demonstrations. We also took part in a knowledge exchange and base-building effort with community leaders as part of the Migrar es un Derecho campaign, among other meetings and workshops.
- **We denounced** the illegal, discriminatory, and dangerous practices of collaboration between local police and federal immigration authorities documented across the archipelago during a congressional shadow hearing on the use of state and local agencies by ICE.
- **We were part of the Festival Pa’ Quedarnos**, where we participated in a panel on the rights of immigrants and the impact of ICE and Trump administration policies on communities in Puerto Rico.
- **We continued to engage** in public discussions on civil rights issues through interviews and media appearances.